

17 Mar 73

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STATSPEC

TOR: 171448Z MAR 73

P 171405Z MAR 73
 FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7279
 BT
 UNCLAS MOSCOW 2946

E.O. 11652 N/A
 TAGS: SENV, UR
 SUBJ: US-USSR ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT

FOR CEO

REF: STATE 33336, STATE 45359, MOSCOW 2290

1. SOVIET SIDE SEEKS FINALLY TO BE COMING TO GRIP WITH ORGANIZATIONAL AND OTHER ASPECTS OF FORTHCOMING VISITS, WITH RESULT THAT NUMBER OF POSTPONED OR SCHEDULED VISITS ARE IN VERY LAST STAGES OF PLANNING AND COMMUNICATION WITH US SIDE IS IMMINENT.

2. OIL POLLUTION: DUBCHAK AND FIVE OTHER SOVIET SPECIALISTS PLANNING TO ARRIVE IN US MAY 6, 1973.

3. AIR POLLUTION MODELING: ZEITSEV LEADING DELEGATION OF FOUR EXPERTS TO ARRIVE IN US FOR TALKS BEGINNING MAY 8. (WE ASSUME THIS MEANS MAY 6 ARRIVAL).

4. EARTHQUAKE PREDICTION: SOVDEL ARRIVED US APRIL 22. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED VISA APPLICATIONS.

5. AGRICULTURE: LETTER TO DR. TSCHIRLEY BEING PREPARED. SHOULD BE DELIVERED IN "MATTER OF DAYS."

6. LEGAL/ADMINISTRATIVE: MEETINGS BEGIN IN US ON MAY 8.

7. URBAN: THIS WAS FIRST VISIT TO BE POSTPONED AND IS STILL MOST DIFFICULT TO SCHEDULE. KAZAKOV MET WITH KUDRYAVTSEV AGAIN MARCH 15 TO TRY TO HELP RESOLVE ORGANIZATIONAL PROBLEMS, BUT KUDRYAVTSEV DOES NOT THINK VISIT CAN TAKE PLACE BEFORE MAY. IN VIEW OF CEO DEADLINE OF APRIL 15 ARRIVAL HOWEVER, KAZAKOV BELIEVES THAT VISIT WILL, IN FACT, HAVE TO

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BE POSTPONED UNTIL FALL, AS REQUESTED BY CEQ. ON OTHER HAND, ESCALATION OF MATTER TO HIGHER LEVEL MIGHT HELP IN KAZAKOV'S VIEW. ANSWER TO TRAIN-FEDOROV LETTER OF MARCH 16 ON THIS MATTER WILL BE SENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

8. MARINE POLLUTION EFFECT ON ORGANISMS: LETTER WILL BE SENT TO DR. SCHNEIDER IN MATTER OF DAYS.

9. LODGING IN U.S. PRIVATE HOMES: ACCORDING TO HYDROMET, THIS ARRANGEMENT WOULD NOT BE VERY SATISFACTORY.

10. FINANCIAL ASPECTS: DR. ISRAEL HAS WRITTEN TRAIN THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO VISIT US SECOND HALF OF JUNE 1973. IT IS HOPED THAT DOCUMENT CONCERNING FINANCIAL CONDITIONS OF COOPERATION CAN BE PREPARED AND SIGNED DURING THIS VISIT. FOR THOSE EXCHANGES CARRIED OUT ON HOST-PAYS BASIS, HYDROMET SUGGESTS THAT HOST COUNTRY PAY FOR HOTEL, LOCAL AND OTHER INTERNAL TRAVEL, AND CULTURAL ATTRACTIONS (ENTERTAINMENT). IN ADDITION, HOST WOULD PROVIDE EACH PARTICIPANT WITH PER DIEM TO COVER FOOD AND MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES. UNDER NASA AND HEW PROGRAMS, PER DIEM AMOUNTS TO EQUIVALENT OF TEN RUBLES. SINCE MANY LUNCHES AND DINNERS ARE FREQUENTLY PROVIDED BY HOSTS IN CAPACITY OF "RECEPTIONS" ANYWAY, EXPERIENCE SHOWS THAT TEN RUBLES MAY BE EXCESSIVE. IN VIEW OF BUDGET SQUEEZE FACED BY SOME US PROJECT CHAIRMEN, CEQ MAY WISH TO DISCUSS THIS POINT WITH FRUTKIN (NASA) AND EHRLICH (HEW/OIH).

11. GENERAL COMMENT: IN VIEW OF ONLY RECENT ENTRY BY HYDROMET INTO SPHERE OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ON THIS SCALE, IT HAS, NATURALLY, SUFFERED SOME GROWING PAINS WHILE GAINING EXPERIENCE. WE ARE HOWEVER, VERY PLEASED BY RECENT EVIDENCE THAT PACE OF IMPLEMENTATION IS ACCELERATING. RECENT OR IMMINENT FIRMING UP OF PROGRAMS AND DATES FOR MANY VISITS IS MOST WELCOME SIGN THAT THINGS ARE GOING TO RUN MORE SMOOTHLY IN FUTURE. IN PARTICULAR, HYDROMET HAS COMMITTED ITSELF TO DOING EVERYTHING IN ITS POWER, WITHIN LIMITATIONS OF SOVIET SYSTEM, TO HELP SECURE APPROPRIATE AND COMPLETE PRESS COVERAGE FOR US GROUPS IN USSR. WE HAVE STRESSED TO HYDROMET THE IMPORTANCE OF

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EXTENSIVE AND FAVORABLE PRESS COVERAGE FOR THE SUCCESS OF JOINT PROGRAM. HYDROMET PREFERS, IN ORDER NOT TO BE BURDENED DOWN BY LARGE PRESS CONTINGENT ACCOMPANYING DELEGATIONS ON TRAVEL, THAT PRESS CONTINGENT IN SUCH CASES BE RESTRICTED TO TWO CORRESPONDENTS. DUBS

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